



MISSISSIPPI



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TIMBER PRESCRIPTION GUIDES FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT BY STAGES OF STAND DEVELOPMENT GRAY SQUIRREL

| SEEDLING OR OPEN | SAPLING | POLE | YOUNG SAWTIMBER | MATURE SAWTIMBER |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Exclude fire and grazing. Without desirable hardwood sprouts or seedling reproduction, opportunities for habitat improvement are slim. If present when regenerating, retain 2 den trees per 5 acres that have a 25-yr. life expectancy. | Precommercial thin to release a variety of oaks, hickory, walnut, beech and pecan trees. Protect grapevines, exclude fire and retain vigorous den trees. | Thin early and heavy to release mast trees and to promote vigorous growth of future sawtimber trees and understory fruit-bearing shrubs and trees. Retain existing or potential den trees such as maple, beech, and black cherry. Oak, beech and hickory should comprise about 1/2 of stand. | Cut to favor a good mixture of large mast producers and den trees. Retain existing den trees. Protect grape vines. Thin dense mid-stories. | Make salvage and sanitation cuts. Retain a variety of at least 10 healthy mast-producing trees and at least 4 den trees per acre. Prior to regeneration, make heavy cuts to encourage oak reproduction. Regenerate hardwoods with 20 acre (or less) clearcuts or large group selection to get rapid early growth. Inventory to assure oak reproduction is present prior to regeneration harvest cutting. |

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